

Amended
TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
January 10, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: 6:33 p.m.

INVOCATION: Reverend Joan Mier – Peace United Church of Christ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

2017 - MERRILLVILLE TOWN COUNCIL BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS:

STANDING COMMITTEES:
BUDGET & FINANCE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Pettit, Chairman
Barron
Uzelac

PUBLIC WORKS

Minchuk, Chairman
LaMarca
Spann

COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Uzelac, Chairwoman
LaMarca
Minchuk

PERSONNEL POLICY &
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Barron, Chairwoman
LaMarca
Uzelac

PUBLIC SAFETY

Uzelac, Chairwoman
Pettit
Spann

PARKS & RECREATION

LaMarca, Chairwoman
Barron
Uzelac

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Barron, Chairwoman
Pettit
Spann

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS
*Town Parade Committee member

LaMarca, Chairwoman
Barron
Orlich
Spires
*John Petalas

SPECIAL BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Pettit, Chairman
Barron
Minchuk
Bryan Lazorik, Chamber Pres.
Sue Reed, Exe. Dir., MCC

UTILITY LIAISONS

Spann, Chairman
Minchuk
Uzelac

ABANDONED BLIGHTED PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

Hardaway, Chairman
Guernsey
Spann

LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE

Barron

NORTHWEST INDIANA REGIONAL
PLAN COMMISSION

Hardaway

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Barron
LaMarca
Minchuk
Pettit
Uzelac

Mrs. Barron made a motion to appoint Councilman Pettit and Councilwoman Uzelac to the Redevelopment Commission. The motion was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

President Hardaway as Town Council Executive appointed Councilwoman Barron, Councilwoman LaMarca and Councilman Minchuk to the Redevelopment Commission.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minchuk
Olthof
Ward

Mr. Pettit made a motion to appoint Representative Julie Olthof to the Economic Development Commission. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Ward was nominated and appointed to the Economic Development Commission by the Lake County Council.

PLAN COMMISSION

LaMarca
Pettit
Uzelac
Hotlz
Palmateer
Dering
Bigelow

President Hardaway announced the appointments of Mr. Dering and Mr. Bigelow to the Plan Commission.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Minchuk
Stojakovich
Bigelow
Fortier
Holtz

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD

Ghoston
Crist
Simek

President Hardaway announced the appointment of Ralph Simek to Stormwater Management Board.

POLICE COMMISSION

Guip
Kennedy
Ward

Mr. Minchuk made a motion to appoint Gene Ward to the Police Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

FIRE TERRITORY BOARD

Spann
Spires

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated January 10, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 27, 2016. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk had no report. President Hardaway discussed an issue with Indiana American Water Company regarding the response time when dealing with several water main breaks that have occurred. He said that communication has taken place requesting Indiana American Water Company to be more responsive when these situations occur. Discussion among the Town Council followed regarding multiple issues and concerns when doing business with Indiana American Water Company. A recommendation was made to set up a meeting with Indiana American Water Company to discuss matters.

Mr. Pettit spoke about an ice issue located at Broadway and RT 30. He requested Mr. Spires and Mr. Lake to contact INDOT (Indiana Department of Transportation) in an effort to resolve this ongoing problem. Mr. Spires provided an update related to this matter.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Uzelac said people from Broadmoor Apartments have been parking their vehicles in a residential area and that this is becoming a major problem with the homeowners. Mr. Spires informed the Police Department of the circumstances and will look into having No Parking signs put up. Mrs. Uzelac thanked Mr. Spires for his assistance in the matter.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac provided detailed information from a proposed three year contract with Superior Ambulance. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the contract effective February 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pettit. Discussion followed. Mr. Bushemi confirmed with Chief Yerga that all of the emergency medical response requirements are incorporated satisfactorily in the agreement with Superior. Chief Yerga was in agreement. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PARKS & RECREATION: Ms. LaMarca had no report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS: Mrs. Barron had no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS: Ms. LaMarca had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Pettit had no report.

UTILITY LIAISON: Mr. Spann had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway inquired as to the status of various locations up for tax sale. Mr. Bushemi agreed to inquire with the Board of Commissioners in an effort to obtain the tax sale certificates. Discussion followed.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES: None

SECOND READING ORDINANCES: None

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 17-01: A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana authorizing temporary loans to fulfill monetary requirements necessary for debt service payments (retroactive to 1-04-17). Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town Hall offices closed (except for Emergency Services)
January 16, 2017 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
Stormwater Management Board meeting, January 17, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.
Workshop, January 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
Plan Commission meeting, January 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Environmental Resource Committee meeting, January 19, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
Town Council meeting, January 24, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Ms. LaMarca.